

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

SSC-01 HA-05 CPR-01 /071 W

-----070212 102214Z /70

R 101332Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7459

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FREETOWN 1144

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, SL

SUBJ: MINI CABINET RESHUFFLE

1. GOSL ANNOUNCED EVENING APRIL 7 THAT TWO CABINET MINISTERS, FORMER MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE BANGALI MANSARAY AND FORMER RESIDENT MINISTER EASTERN PROVINCE A.G. LAPPYA, HAVE BEEN DISMISSED AND THAT A NEW MINISTRY OF LANDS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED. DR. SAMA S. BANYA, MP KAILAHUN SOUTH REPLACES LAPPYA AND DR. ALOYSIUS JACKSON, MP BO, ASSUMES THE AGRICULTURE PORTFOLIO. MR. IBRAHIM KAMARA, FORMER SPECIAL PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT IN THE OLD MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINES BECOMES MINISTER OF LANDS.

2. BEGIN LOU - EMBASSY COMMENT: LAPPYA'S DISMISSAL PROBABLY REFLECTS STEVENS' UNHAPPINESS WITH THE CONTINUING OPPOSITION TO A ONE-PARTY STATE AMONG THE MINDS OF THE EASTERN PROVINCE. BANYA, WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY, IS THE FIRST KISSY TRIBESMAN TO ASSUME A PORTFOLIO IN THIS GOVERNMENT. STEVENS PROBABLY HOPES BANYA CAN DO A BETTER JOB OF SELLING

THE ONE-PARTY CONCEPT TO THE LESSER EASTERN PROVINCE TRIBES.

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3. JACKSON'S APPOINTMENT NOW PROVIDES A MINISTER FOR THE BO DISTRICT POPULATION WHO HAD NO PREVIOUS REPRESENTATIVE BECAUSE OF THE DELAYED ELECTIONS IN THAT DISTRICT (77 FREETOWN 3024). JACKSON IS CONSIDERED TO BE AMONG THE BRIGHTEST AND BEST EDUCATED OF THE NEW GROUP OF APC OFFICE HOLDERS, AND STEVENS PROBABLY HOPES HE CAN DO SOMETHING TO IMPROVE THE

VITAL BUT INEFFICIENT MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE.

4. SEPARATION OF MINES AND LANDS INTO TWO MINSTRIES REFLECTS THE GROWING AWARENESS OF THE GOSL THAT ANTIQUATED AND COMPLEX LAND TENURE LAWS SERIOUSLY RETARD AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ALL BUT PRECLUDE FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN AGRI-BUSINESS. THE CONTINUING PROLIFERATION OF MINISTRIES, HOWEVER, MAY ALSO UNDERSCORE STEVENS' COMPULSION TO SEEK A NATIONAL CONSENSUS AND THE CREATION OF NEW MINISTERS AND MINISTRIES IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE, BUT COSTLY, MEANS OF ACHIEVING THIS GOAL. END EMBASSY COMMENT. END LOU.
LINEHAN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 10 apr 1978
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SAS ID: 3023874
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINI CABINET RESHUFFLE
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, SL
To: STATE
Type: TE
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